(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. At present Pawan Hans Helicopter Ltd. (PHHL) is providing helicopter services in Uttarakhand. Pawan Hans Helicopter Ltd. (PHHL) provides connectivity to Kedarnath Dham during the season. PHHL has constructed a helipad at Phatta for helicopter services to Kedarnath and is also operating from Augustmuni for Kedarnath services. PHHL has contructed a hangar at Gauchar air field for helicopter services in Uttarakhand.

Medical check-up for air crew member

141. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no medical test for male cabin crew and their retirement age is 58 years whereas medical test is compulsory for female cabin crew and their retirement age is 30 years which is extended from time to time after their medical check-up;

(b) if so, the reasons for this discrimination;

(c) whether Government would consider to remove this discrimination in near future; and

(d) if so, the details of the steps taken or being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) to (d) As per the present requirements, medical test is not required for cabin crew members. Airlines have their own policy for medical tests and retirement age.

Compensation to the air passengers

142. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has been implementing orders of Delhi Consumer and other States' commissions regarding operating airlines are required to pay a sum of Rs. 10,000/- to every domestic passenger for flight delays of more than two hour in departure or arrival and International flights will have to shell out Rs. 20,000 per passenger for the same offence, and that only holdings owing to reasons beyond the airline's control like tyre burst, bad weather and bird hits have been exempted;

(b) if so, the modalities evolved for giving effect to these decisions to ensure that effected passengers are not taken for a ride and denied the entitled amount, under the plea of exemption category; and

(c) the number of delayed arrival passengers benefited as such during 2007 and 2008?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Decisions given by the Consumer Courts for compensation to passengers are applicable directly to the airlines. The Government does not regulate the commercial matter of the airlines, as such Government has no role in implementation of such decision.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.